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Editorial



It is with great pleasure that I write the first editorial for *Energy Reports*. I am really excited to be part of this endeavor of launching a new journal to attract papers of high scientific merit in energy related areas of increasing impact. However, why a new journal related to energy? Although there are already other energy journals that are currently published, the field of energy research is very diverse and appealing to a wider audience. Researchers, engineers, policy-makers, and the general public are increasingly recognizing the need for new energy technologies. Therefore, we believe that this journal fills an important niche in the market since it is a multidisciplinary open access journal that focuses on publishing new research in Energy that will be available to all readers interested in this area. This new journal covers any aspect of energy research (e.g. renewables, fossil, nuclear), either from a technical engineering viewpoint or from a social research aspect.

The papers in this first volume show the broadness of the energy field and the scope of the journal and describe a number of energy technologies and projects from around the world from agricultural; renewables; energy management; and waste heat recovery applications.

Agricultural applications were investigated by Mathur et al.'s paper on "Transient effect of soil thermal diffusivity on performance of EATHE system." The focus on agricultural application continues with the Moradi's paper on "Energy use and economical analysis of seedy watermelon production for different irrigation systems in Iran". Other papers in this issue are related to renewable energy technologies. Tanaka's paper investigates the theoretical analysis of solar thermal collector and flat plate bottom reflector

with a gap between them. The focus on solar energy research continues with Xu et al.'s paper on "Parallel experimental study of a novel super-thin thermal absorber based photovoltaic/thermal (PV/T) system against conventional photovoltaic (PV) system." From solar energy we next moved to wind energy with Liu's investigation on "Interval forecasts of a novelty hybrid model for wind speeds." Waste heat recovery technology is covered by Safarian and Aramoun's investigation on "Energy and exergy assessments of modified Organic Rankine Cycles (ORCs)." Finally, Figueiredo has looked at energy management systems with integration of smart meters for electricity consumers in a smart grid context. These papers are but a sample of the range of topics that will be covered by *Energy Reports*. Since August 2014, when the journal was announced, we have received more than 70 submissions.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the staff at Elsevier and the Editorial Board of *Energy Reports* for their hard work in bringing this first issue to completion. We hope that this journal will be a useful addition to the energy research community. We look forward to working with all contributors to make *Energy Reports* an important resource for all those interested in different aspects of Energy.

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